

61-3824/a

18 MAY 1961

*✓*  
*and*  
Honorable Chet Holtfield  
Chairman  
Joint Committee on Atomic Energy  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Holtfield:

I have your letter of 8 May referring to the particular interest of the Joint Committee in Soviet weapons tests and your specific request for National Intelligence Estimate [redacted].  
[redacted] As you are probably aware now, a copy of this Estimate and a Restricted Data Annex were hand delivered to the Joint Committee staff on 8 May 1961. At the time of delivery of the Estimate it was suggested that if the Joint Committee or the staff wished any further briefing we would be pleased to make the necessary arrangements.

In your letter you also request the Agency to furnish such documents as this relating to atomic energy to the Joint Committee on a continuing basis. Please be assured that I have every desire to assist the Joint Committee in any way possible. In connection with the timing of actual delivery of Estimates, I should like to point out that the date normally appearing on an Estimate reflects the date of approval of the Estimate by the United States Intelligence Board and some days may elapse, depending on existing priorities, before the Estimate is printed in its finished form. I am informed, however, that my representatives have discussed with the staff of the Joint Committee a system of alerting the Joint Committee staff when an Estimate has been approved with the view that the Joint Committee will have advance notice of any particular Estimate prior to final printing and delivery to the Joint Committee.

(EXECUTIVE REGISTRATION FILE *Long*)

*E R*

SECRET

It is hoped these arrangements will assist the Joint Committee in the discharge of its responsibilities.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

Allen W. Dulles  
Director

Distribution:

○ & 1 - Addressees (To be hand carried by Leg. C.)

1 - DCI

1 - DDCI

1 - ER - *CP - 5/17/61*

1 - IG *WPK have*

1 - AD/SI

1 - AD/CI

1 - Legislative Counsel

OGC/LC:JSW:mke

SECRET

11-3824/1  
OC 61-0781  
92

11 May 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Request from the Joint Committee on  
Atomic Energy for National Intelligence  
Estimates

1. This memorandum suggests action on the part of the  
Director of Central Intelligence.

2. Attached is a proposed reply for your signature to  
Representative Holifield as Chairman of the Joint Committee on  
Atomic Energy. This responds to his letter of 8 May 1961 in which  
he requests [REDACTED]

25X1

[REDACTED] A copy of that NIE was delivered to the Joint Committee on  
the same day the letter was dated.

25X1

3. Representative Holifield also requests that in the future  
documents of this type be made available to the Joint Committee on a  
continuing basis. Your response assures the Joint Committee of the  
desire for cooperation but does point out a timing problem in that the  
finished Estimate lags by some days the actual date appearing on the  
Estimate. In this case, but not included in the letter to Mr. Holifield,  
is the fact that a new version of the Restricted Data Annex had to be  
prepared for delivery to the JCAE since the finished Annex referred to  
another Annex with a special intelligence classification. This reference  
was deleted in the revised version. This procedure took several days.

4. One of the problems involved is that other members of the  
intelligence community reveal to the Joint Committee that an Estimate  
is being worked on or has been approved prior to the time that the  
Estimate is printed and then delivered. We are working with OSI on


SECRET

~~SECRET~~

this point with the hope that the JAEIC members and the USIB members would refrain from discussions of Estimates or other studies unless and until they are delivered to the Joint Committee. It is doubtful that this will be completely successful since they are, on occasion, specifically asked about Estimates on certain subjects. On the other hand, we hope to see that references are avoided to Estimates or studies, the classification of which would prevent their being forwarded to the Joint Committee.

5. This letter from Holifield is also another manifestation of the suspicion on the part of the staff members of the Joint Committee that the Agency is not providing full information. This situation is discussed in detail with appropriate recommendations in my memorandum to the DCI dated 10 April 1961. I believe there is danger of a serious deterioration of relationships unless the Agency can resolve some of the doubts that have arisen in the minds of certain of the staff members and possibly the Committee members.

25X1

  
JOHN S. WARNER  
Legislative Counsel

Att. - Proposed ltr to JCAE

Distribution:

Orig - Leg. C. w/ltr to be hand carried to JCAE  
1 - DCI  
1 - DDCI  
1 - ER  
1 - IG  
1 - AD/SI  
1 - AD/CI

OGC/LC:JSW:mks

~~SECRET~~

**SECRET**

61-382411  
OGC 61-0761

11 May 1961

**MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence**

**SUBJECT: Request from the Joint Committee on  
Atomic Energy for National Intelligence  
Estimates**

1. This memorandum suggests action on the part of the Director of Central Intelligence.

2. Attached is a proposed reply for your signature to Representative Hollifield as Chairman of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy. This responds to his letter of 8 May 1961 in which he requests [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] A copy of that RIE was delivered to the Joint Committee on the same day the letter was dated.

3. Representative Hollifield also requests that in the future documents of this type be made available to the Joint Committee on a continuing basis. Your response assures the Joint Committee of the desire for cooperation but does point out a timing problem in that the finished Estimate lags by some days the actual date appearing on the Estimate. In this case, but not included in the letter to Mr. Hollifield, is the fact that a new version of the Restricted Data Annex had to be prepared for delivery to the JCAE since the finished Annex referred to another Annex with a special intelligence classification. This reference was deleted in the revised version. This procedure took several days.

4. One of the problems involved is that other members of the intelligence community reveal to the Joint Committee that an Estimate is being worked on or has been approved prior to the time that the Estimate is printed and then delivered. We are working with G&I on

25X1  
25X1

**SECRET**

SECRET

this point with the hope that the JAKIC members and the USIB members would refrain from discussions of Estimates or other studies unless and until they are delivered to the Joint Committee. It is doubtful that this will be completely successful since they are, on occasion, specifically asked about Estimates on certain subjects. On the other hand, we hope to see that references are avoided to Estimates or studies, the classification of which would prevent their being forwarded to the Joint Committee.

5. This letter from Holtfield is also another manifestation of the suspicion on the part of the staff members of the Joint Committee that the Agency is not providing full information. This situation is discussed in detail with appropriate recommendations in my memorandum to the DCI dated 10 April 1961. I believe there is danger of a serious deterioration of relationships unless the Agency can resolve some of the doubts that have arisen in the minds of certain of the staff members and possibly the Committee members.

JOHN S. WARNER  
Legislative Counsel

Att. - Proposed ltr to JCAE

Distribution:

Orig - Leg. C. w/ltr to be hand carried to JCAE

1 - DCI

1 - DDCI

1 - ER

1 - IG

1 - AD/SI

1 - AD/CI

CGC/LC:JSW:mks

10 MAY 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Gen. Cabell noted orig ER 61-3824/1 and passed to DCI w/handwritten note on transmittal sheet that memo mentioned in paragraph 5, dtd 10

Apr was "approved by DCI. DDCI is to call on Hollofield and discuss staff requirements."

*The Spec material  
in Memo file*

B-  
O/DDCI  
17 May 61

\_\_\_\_\_  
(DATE)

FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101  
1 AUG 54 WHICH MAY BE USED.

(47)